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DATE July 1965

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION  
PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE REPORT

NOVO-BAKU PETROLEUM REFINERY  
BAKU, USSR

CIA/PIR-5026/65



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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and declassification

Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

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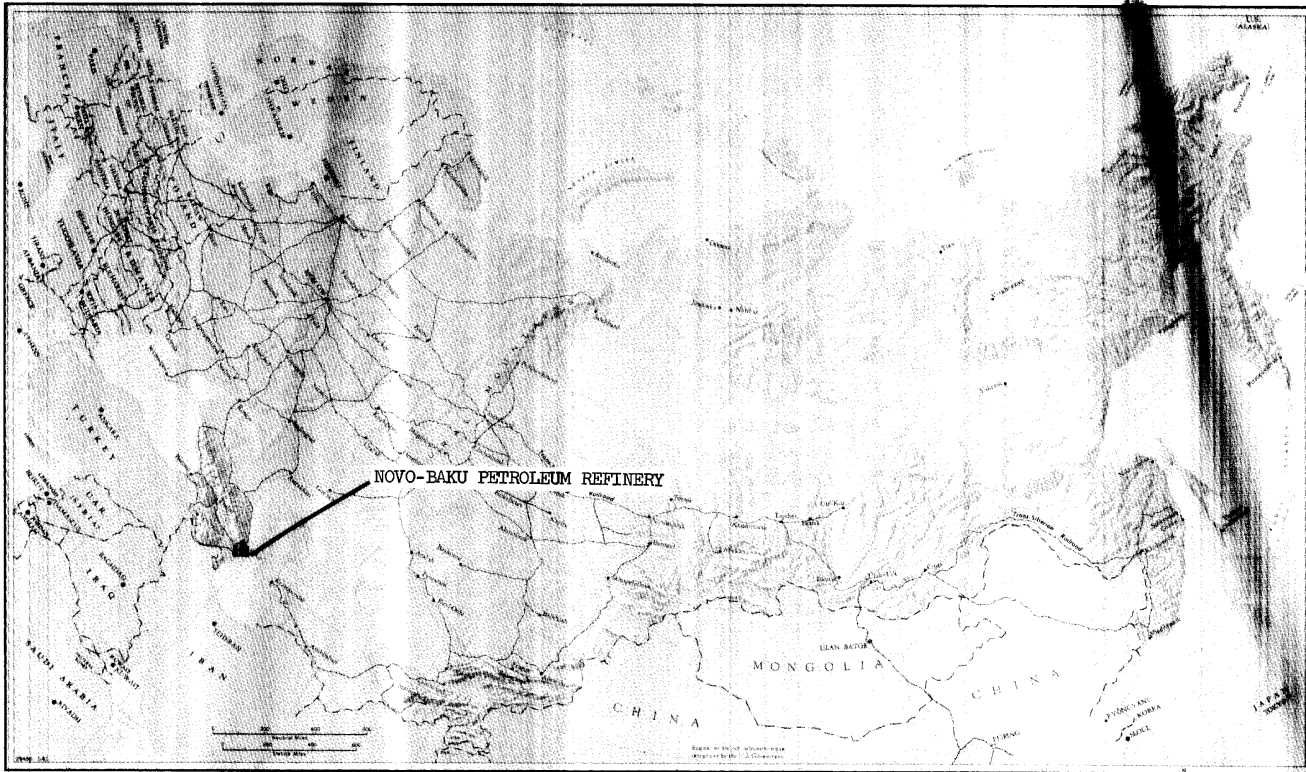
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FIGURE 1

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PREPARED BY - CHEMICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SECTION,  
INDUSTRIAL BRANCH, IAD

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## CIA, PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

## NOVO-BAKU PETROLEUM REFINERY

BAKU, USSR

1. The Novo-Baku Petroleum Refinery is located approximately two and a half miles from the Caspian Sea in the eastern sector of the city of Baku, USSR. The geographic coordinates of the approximate center of the refinery are 40 24 20N - 49 55 10E and its orientation is E/W.

The refinery is irregular in shape with maximum dimensions of 6,000 feet by 5,000 feet and covers an area of approximately 14,600,000 square feet. It is served by road, rail and probably by pipeline.

A comparison of [ ] missions over this refinery during the period [ ] indicates that one major refining unit has been constructed and put in operation during this period while another major refining unit is nearing completion. In addition, a number of other refining units are presently under construction. Details concerning this construction activity and other changes at the refinery are discussed in part b of section 2.

2. The limits of the Novo-Baku Petroleum Refinery and the outlines of individual sections within the refinery are shown on Figure 5 of this report.

a. Identification and analysis of the various sections are discussed under the number corresponding to that on Figure 5:

- (1) Area under construction containing several pipe furnaces, several fractionating columns, a possible compressor building, a possible control house, a number of warehouse/maintenance type buildings, and POL tank storage
- (2) Probable intermediate product storage area
- (3) Two catalytic cracking units (thermoform type) and associated facilities
- (4) Catalytic cracking unit (fluid type) and associated facilities
- (5) Warehouse/maintenance type buildings
- (6) Area with a small pipe furnace, two fractionating columns, probable compressor building, control house, and laydown tanks
- (7) Area with a small pipe furnace, fractionating column, probable compressor building, control house, and POL tank storage

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- (8) Area with four or five fractionating columns grouped closely together, probable compressor building, control house, and laydown tanks
- (9) Possible alkylation unit consisting of several fractionating towers, a large compressor building, a smaller probable compressor building, and laydown tanks
- (10) Probable intermediate and final product storage area
- (11) Probable vapor recovery area with two essentially identical units each consisting of a large fractionating column, two medium-sized fractionating columns, a smaller fractionating column, three vertical tanks, two probable compressor buildings, and laydown tanks
- (12) Administration and laboratory area
- (13) Area under construction consisting of several refining units in an early stage of construction and several associated buildings, a number of quonset type buildings, and POL tank storage
- (14) POL tank storage area including a large tank under construction
- (15) Area with a number of warehouse/maintenance type buildings, open material storage, several small towers, and a water treating pond
- (16) Probable distillation area with two pipe furnaces, two fractionating columns, probable compressor building, control house, and water treating pond
- (17) POL tank storage
- (18) Catalytic cracking unit (probable fluid type) and associated facilities
- (19) Two distillation units, each consisting of two pipe furnaces, two fractionating columns, a compressor building, and laydown tanks
- (20) Heat and power plant
- (21) POL tank storage area
- (22) Suspect catalytic cracking unit in an early stage of construction: a number of buildings have been or are being constructed and the construction of the base of a new unit has begun; the appearance and placement of this unit and the layout of associated buildings are very similar to the catalytic cracking unit and associated facilities in Annotation 19
- (23) POL tank storage area including a pump house
- (24) Possible catalytic reforming unit under construction with 9-12 small furnaces arranged in three rows, several fractionating columns, possible cooling towers, probable control house, POL tank storage, including three probable spheroidal tanks, and several warehouse/maintenance type buildings

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- (25) Suspect tankcar loading and unloading facilities
- (26) POL tank storage area
- (27) Water treating facilities and cooling towers
- (28) Suspect pipeline station
- (29) Probable crude oil storage area
- (30) Possible petrochemical plant associated with the refinery

b. Construction activity and changes at the refinery from [ ] include the following (annotation numbers refer to Figure 5):

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- (1) Construction of the facilities in Annotation 1 began after [ ] with the exception of the warehouse/maintenance type buildings which were present in [ ]
- (2) Construction in Annotation 13 began between [ ]
- (3) Construction of the catalytic cracking unit in Annotation 18 began prior to [ ] and was possibly complete by [ ] Smoke coming from this unit at the time of the latest coverage indicates that it is presently in operation.
- (4) The area described under Annotation 22 is still in an early stage of construction; construction of some of the buildings may have begun in 1963.
- (5) The possible catalytic reforming area described under Annotation 24 has been under construction since [ ] and appears nearly complete.
- (6) Construction of the POL tanks in Annotation 26 began between [ ] the area appears complete as of [ ]
- (7) Construction of the cooling towers and water treating facilities in Annotation 27 began between [ ] and [ ] they appear essentially complete as of [ ]

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3. The refinery appears to have been operating in [ ] as indicated by smoke coming from a number of refining units. Due to the quality of the photography of [ ] it is not possible to determine whether the refinery was operating at that time.

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4. All measurements have been made by the CIA/IAD/IB project analyst. They should be considered as approximate and must not be taken as official NPIC mensuration data compiled by the Technical Intelligence Division, NPIC.

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#### REFERENCES

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#### MAPS OR CHARTS

General Locator Map, USSR - 29656 1-61 (UNCLASSIFIED)  
ACIC. US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet 0325-25HL,  
2nd Edition, March 1963 (SECRET)

#### REQUIREMENT

CIA. C-RR5-82,464

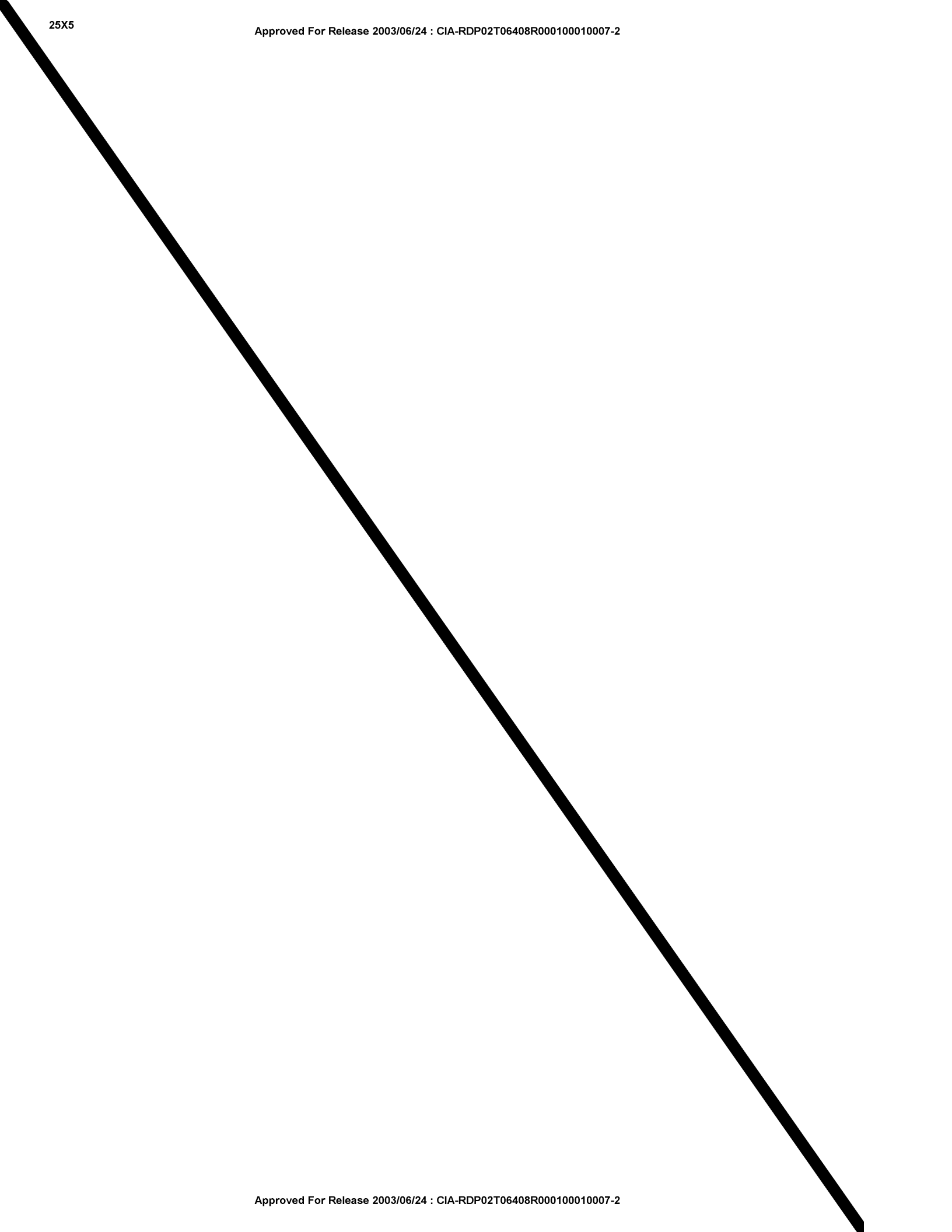
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FIGURE 3

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NOVO-BAKU  
PETROLEUM REFINERY  
Baku, USSR  
40 24 20N - 49 55 10E

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FIGURE 4

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NOVO-BAKU  
PETROLEUM REFINERY  
Baku, USSR  
40 24 20N - 49 55 10E

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FIG - 0026705  
FIGURE 5

NOVO-BAKU  
PETROLEUM REFINERY  
Baku, USSR  
40 24 20N - 49 55 10E

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